General Education Annual Course Assessment Form

Course Number/Title: Kin/NuFS 163: Physical Fitness & Nutrition   GE Area: R

Results reported for AY 2011-2012

# of sections: 26 (total for year)  # of instructors: 4 NuFS, 4 KIN

Instructors: Izzie Brown (NuFS), Renee Ryan (NUFS), Toni Bloom (NuFS), Clarie Hollenbeck (NuFS), Mike Sullivan (KIN), Stan Butler (KIN), Craig Cisar (KIN), Karen Kieffer Moreno (KIN)

Fall 2010: 10 sessions; Winter 2011: 2 sections; Fall 2011: 10 sections; Summer: 4 sections;
Total number of students: 753

Course Coordinator: Marjorie Freedman (NuFS) E-mail: Marjorie.freedman@sjsu.edu

Department Chair: Lucy McProud  College: CASA

Instructions: Each year, the department will prepare a brief (two page maximum) report that documents the assessment of the course during the year. This report will be electronically submitted, by the department chair, to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, with an electronic copy to the home college by September 1 of the following academic year.

Part 1 To be completed by the course coordinator:

(1) What SLO(s) were assessed for the course during the AY?

As indicated on our General Assessment Schedule (Dated November 25, 2009) SLO #3 was assessed during the Fall 2011, Winter, Spring and Summer 2012 semesters. SLO #3 requires students to demonstrate an understanding of the methods and limits of scientific investigation. To assess this SLO, we looked at changes in students’ grades on one portion of the critical review of research literature assignment. This assignment requires students to read and interpret a scientific paper, and then provide answers to very specific questions—for example, students were asked to describe the type of research design used for the study; whether criteria for well-controlled research was utilized; whether the research methods and/or study design was carefully described; whether the methods and study design was appropriate for meeting the objectives of the study and whether there were any methodological flaws.

This assignment is given twice during the semester, so students’ scores were assessed twice. This allowed for instructor feedback between assessments. To control for possible differences in grading, we only collected data of students who were graded by the same instructor both times. All instructors provided data that was analyzed, in aggregate.
(2) What were the results of the assessment of this course? What were the lessons learned from the assessment?

This assessment indicated that almost all students improved on their assignments following instructor feedback. There were only a few rare cases where students did not get a higher score on the second assignment. This shows that instructors are providing helpful feedback to students, and that there is demonstrated improvement in learning over the course of the semester on this SLO.

**Lessons learned:** We learned that when looking at grading by each instructor, rather than the group, that there is evidence for positive improvement amongst students. One of the main issues in looking at this assessment, however, is the short turn-around time to provide feedback during Summer and Winter sessions. Without timely feedback, it is very difficult for students that are struggling to show improvement on their second assignment.

(3) What modifications to the course, or its assessment activities or schedule, are planned for the upcoming year? (If no modifications are planned, the course coordinator should indicate this.)

We are not planning to make any modifications to the course, or its assessment activities this year. As previously indicted, we will be assessing SLO #3 in the next academic year.

To be completed by the department chair (with input from course coordinator as appropriate):

(4) Are all sections of the course still aligned with the area Goals, Student Learning Objectives (SLOs), Content, Support, and Assessment? If they are not, what actions are planned?

Yes, all the sections of the course are still aligned with area Goals, SLOs, Content, Support and Assessment. Even though there are multiple instructors for this course, most of the NUTRITION and KIN instructors have been teaching it consistently for the past 5 years (or longer). There was two new NuFS instructors, but one will not be continuing to teach the class in 2012-2013. There is also one new KIN instructor, who will be mentored by existing KIN faculty.

Other than that, no specific actions/changes are planned at this time.